

S/N 10/673,067

Atty Dkt No. GP-302855 (GM-0405PUS)

Remarks

Applicants elect Invention I (claim 1-15) with traverse. The Examiner states that:

Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product of (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP §806.05(h)). In the instant case signals between a vehicle chassis and a vehicle body can be transmitted by another materially different product such as wiring.

Applicants submit that the use of wiring to transmit signals between a vehicle chassis and a vehicle body would not allow the claimed process of Invention II (claims 16-20) to be performed. Claim 16 includes the steps of:

moving at least one of the chassis and body towards the other;

mating the first housing and the second housing with one another;

translating a first contact from one of the housings into the other of the housings, wherein said translating is characterized by an absence of insertion force upon the first contact; and

rotating said other housing to an engaged position such that the first contact operatively engages with a second contact in said other housing, thereby communicating the signals between the body and the chassis.

If, as suggested by the Examiner, wiring were used to transmit signals between the vehicle chassis and the vehicle body, "moving at least one of the chassis and the body towards the other"

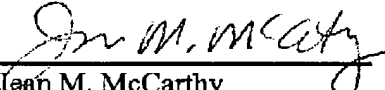
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could not practically be performed, as the wiring used to transmit signals would require that the chassis and body are already joined to one another. Furthermore, the "translating" and "rotating" steps set forth above would not be performed if signals were transmitted via wiring.

Respectfully submitted,

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